

# 3. Solving Parabolic PDEs with R

Modeling with PDEs

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# Elliptic, Parabolic, and Hyperbolic Equations

- The general form of a linear second-order PDE in two dimensions is:

$$A \cdot u_{xx} + B \cdot u_{xy} + C \cdot u_{yy} + D \cdot u_x + E \cdot u_y + F = 0$$

- Depending on the sign of the *discriminant*

$$d = A \cdot C - B^2$$

linear second-order PDEs are called:

- *elliptic* if  $d > 0$
- *parabolic* if  $d = 0$
- *hyperbolic* if  $d < 0$

# Examples of Parabolic Equations

- Heat equation:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \frac{K}{C\rho} \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \right) = 0$$

$$-\frac{K}{C\rho} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + 0 \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x \partial t} + 0 \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial t^2} + 0 \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + 0 = 0$$

$$A = -\frac{K}{C\rho} \quad B = 0 \quad C = 0 \quad D = 0 \quad E = 1 \quad F = 0$$

$$d = A \cdot C - B^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \textit{Parabolic}$$

# Examples of Parabolic Equations

- Action potential propagation in a fiber:

$$C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} - \sigma \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} + I_{ion} = 0$$

$$-\sigma \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} + 0 \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x \partial t} + 0 \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial t^2} + 0 \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} + C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} + I_{ion} = 0$$

$$A = -\sigma \quad B = 0 \quad C = 0 \quad D = 0 \quad E = C_m \quad F = I_{ion}$$

$$d = A \cdot C - B^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \textit{Parabolic}$$

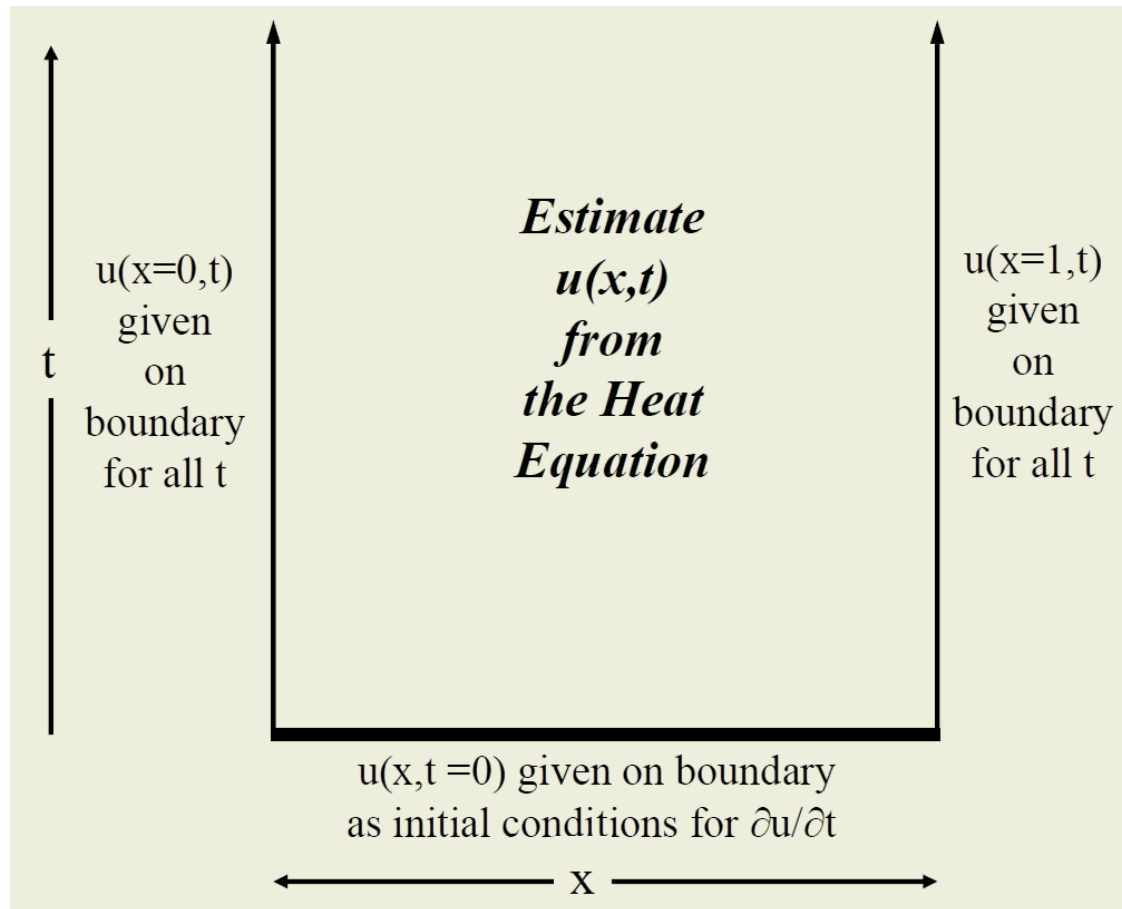
# Re-Cap of the Classification

- **Elliptic PDEs:** Contains second-order derivatives with respect to all independent variables, which all have the same sign.
- **Parabolic PDEs:** Involve one second-order derivative and at least one first-order derivative.
- **Hyperbolic PDEs:** Similar to Elliptic but the second-order derivatives have switching signs.

# Parabolic PDE's

- Typically provided are
  - Initial values:  $u(x, t = 0)$
  - Boundary conditions:  $u(x = x_0, t)$  for all  $t$
- All changes are propagated forward in time, i.e., nothing goes backward in time; changes are propagated across space at decreasing amplitude

# Parabolic PDE's



# Numerical Methods for Solving PDEs

- The numerical methods used for solving PDE's are different depending on the different character of the problems.
  - Sometimes, the problem is solved at all the positions once for steady state conditions
  - Other times, we need to integrate using the initial conditions forward through time.



# Numerical Methods for Solving PDEs

- **Methods**
  - **Finite Difference Method (FDM):** Based on approximating solution at a finite # of points, usually arranged in a regular grid.
  - **Finite Element Method (FEM):** Based on approximating solution on an assemblage of simply shaped (triangular, quadrilateral) finite pieces or "elements".
  - **Method of Lines:** valid for PDEs that are formulated as an initial-value problem in one of its variables. Based on a reformulation of the PDE in terms of a system of ODEs or differential-algebraic equations.

# Finite Difference Method

- Based on approximating solution at a finite # of points, usually arranged in a regular grid.
- Similar to the Forward Euler integration: derivatives are approximated using the difference between two points with an small separation



# Solving Parabolic PDE's

- **Solution of Parabolic PDE's by FD Method**

1. Discretize the domain into a grid of evenly spaced points (nodes)
2. Express the derivatives in terms of Finite Difference

$$\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \quad \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} \rightarrow \text{Finite differences}$$

3. Choose  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta t$  and use the initial values and the boundary conditions to solve the problem by systematically moving ahead in time.



# Solving Parabolic PDE's

- Time derivative:
  - **Explicit:** The future value ( $t + \Delta t$ ) are calculated using the actual values ( $t$ ) and the previous values ( $t - \Delta t$ )
  - **Implicit:** The future values ( $t + \Delta t$ ) are calculated using the actual values ( $t$ ), the future values ( $t + \Delta t$ ), and, sometimes, the previous values ( $t - \Delta t$ )

# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$

- **Notation:** Subscripts ( $i$ ) for space and subscripts ( $m$ ) for time.
- The equation can be approximated by:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} \approx \frac{T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m}}{\Delta t}$$

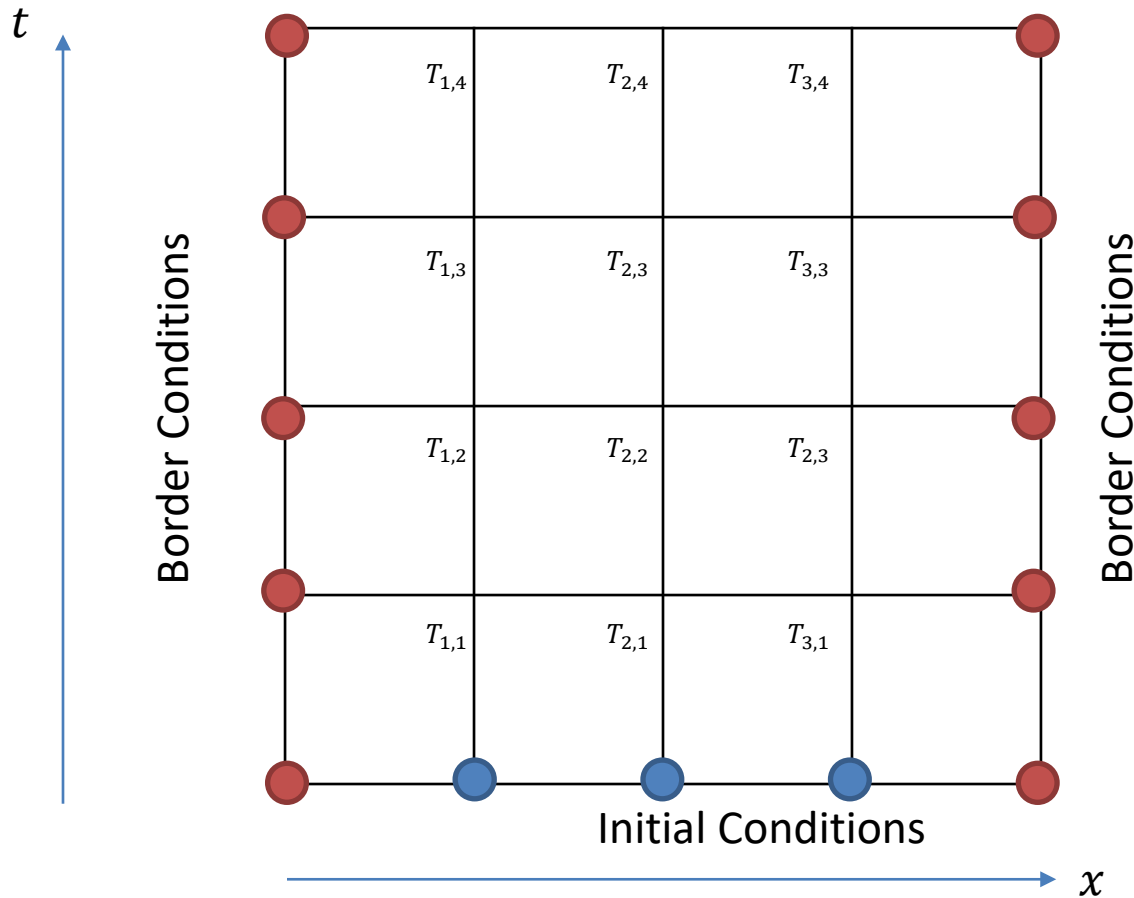
$$\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m}}{\Delta x^2}$$

$$\frac{T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m}}{\Delta t} \approx \frac{K}{C\rho} \frac{T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m}}{\Delta x^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{i,m+1} \approx T_{i,m} + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho} (T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m})$$

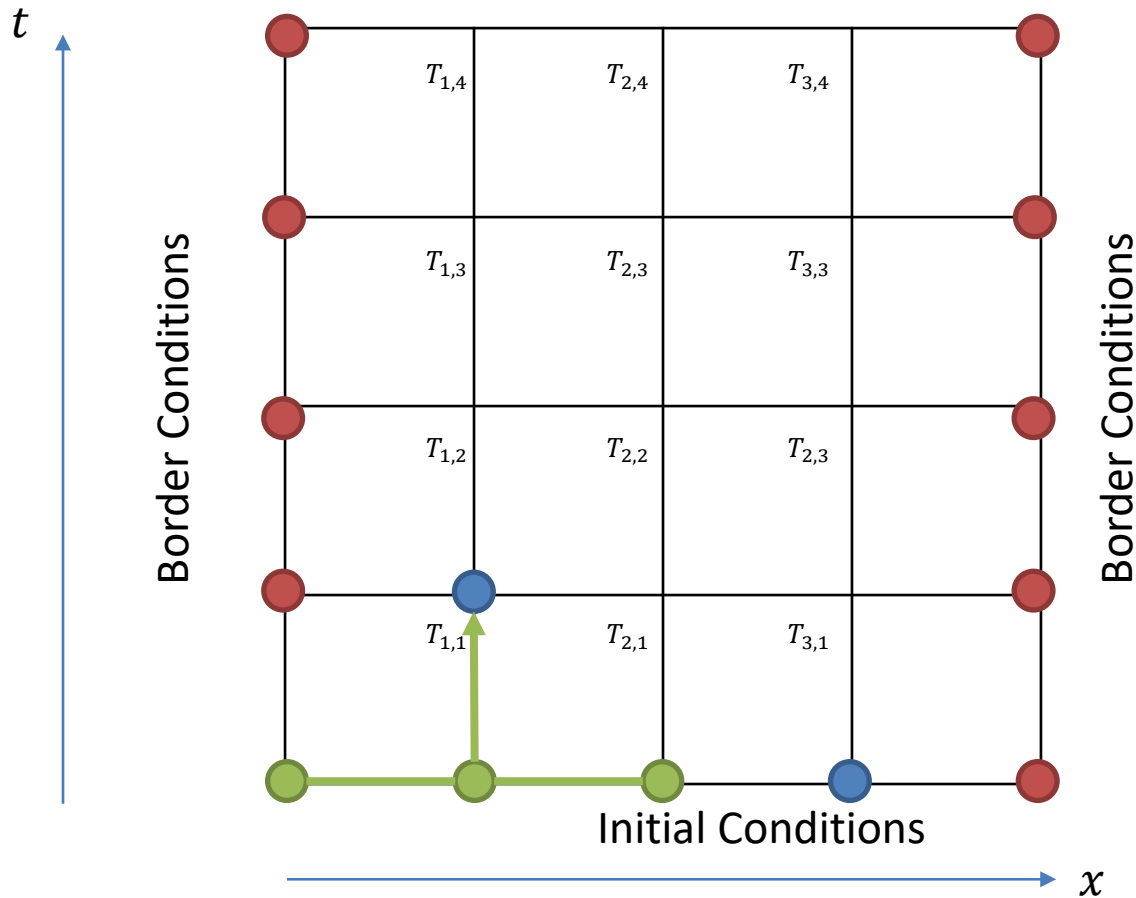
# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

$$T_{i,m+1} \approx T_{i,m} + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho} (T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m})$$



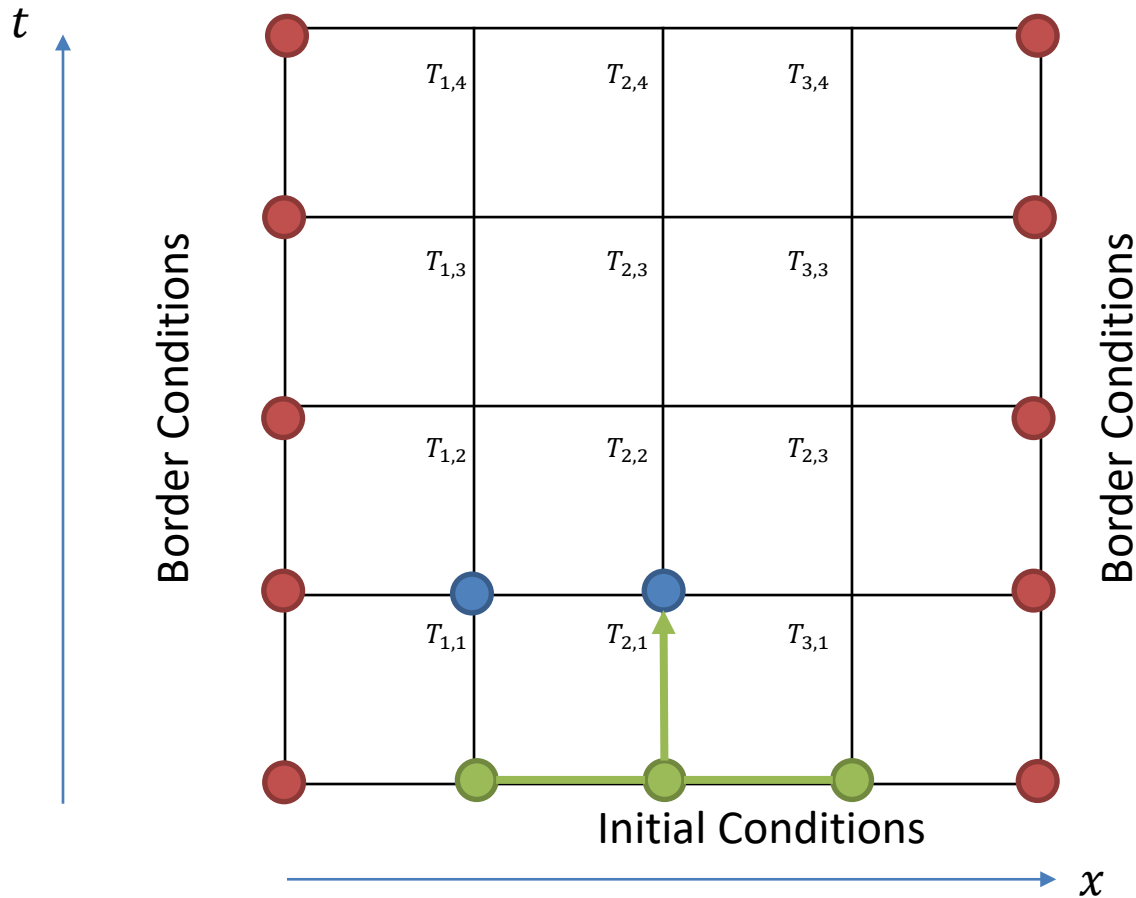
# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

$$T_{i,m+1} \approx T_{i,m} + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho} (T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m})$$



# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

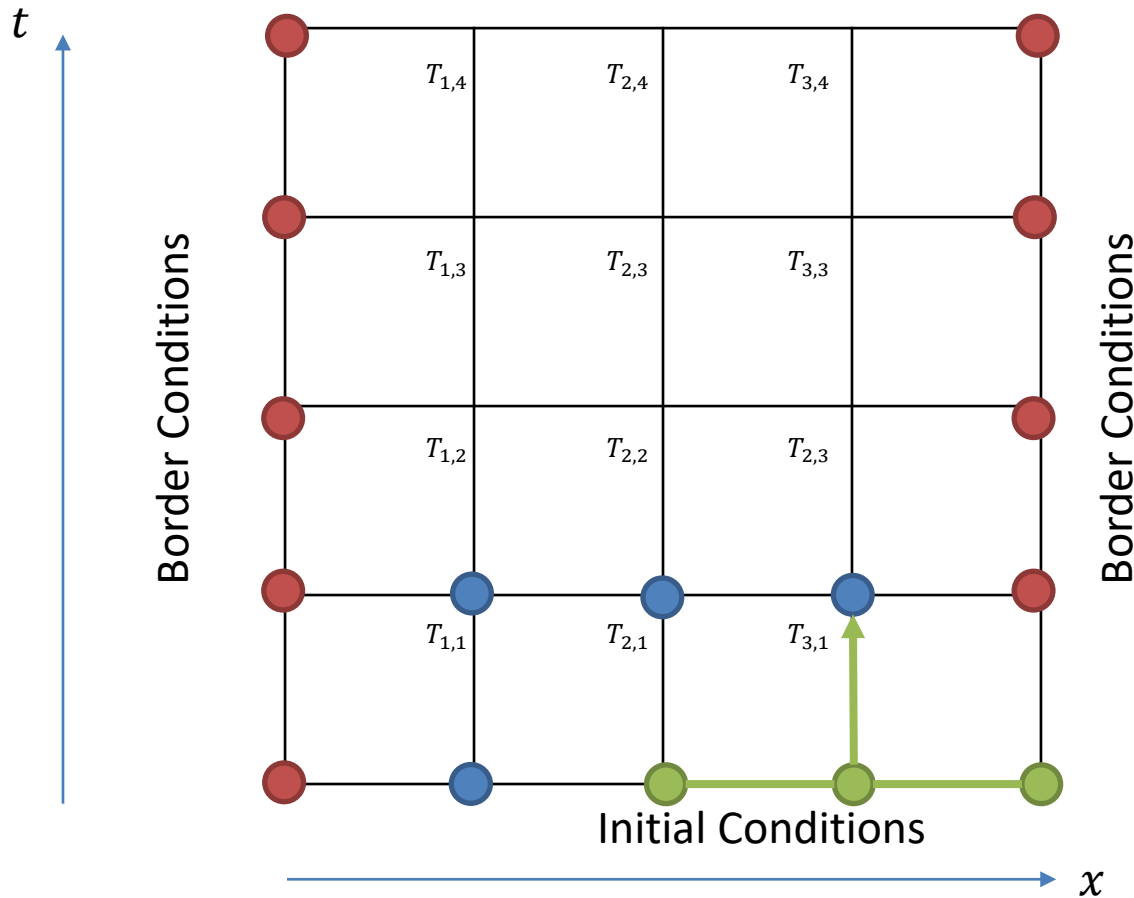
$$T_{i,m+1} \approx T_{i,m} + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho} (T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m})$$



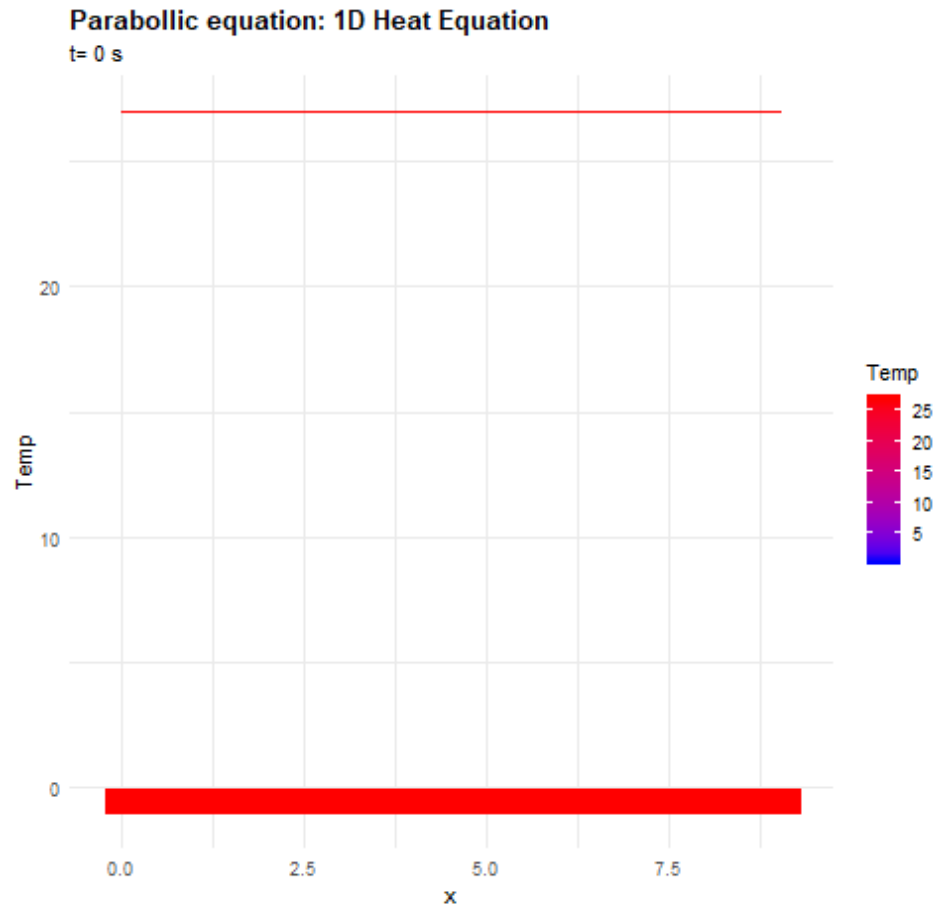


# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

$$T_{i,m+1} \approx T_{i,m} + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho} (T_{i-1,m} - 2T_{i,m} + T_{i+1,m})$$



# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation



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# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

- Libraries:

- gganimate
- transformr
- gifski
- png

- Code:

```
anim <- p + transition_time(time) +  
  labs(title= 't= {frame_time} s')
```

```
animate(anim,  
  nframes = ...,  
  start_pause = ...,  
  end_pause = ...,  
  duration = ...,  
  renderer = gifski_renderer("name.gif"))
```

# Example: Explicit 1D-Heat equation

- **Stability:**

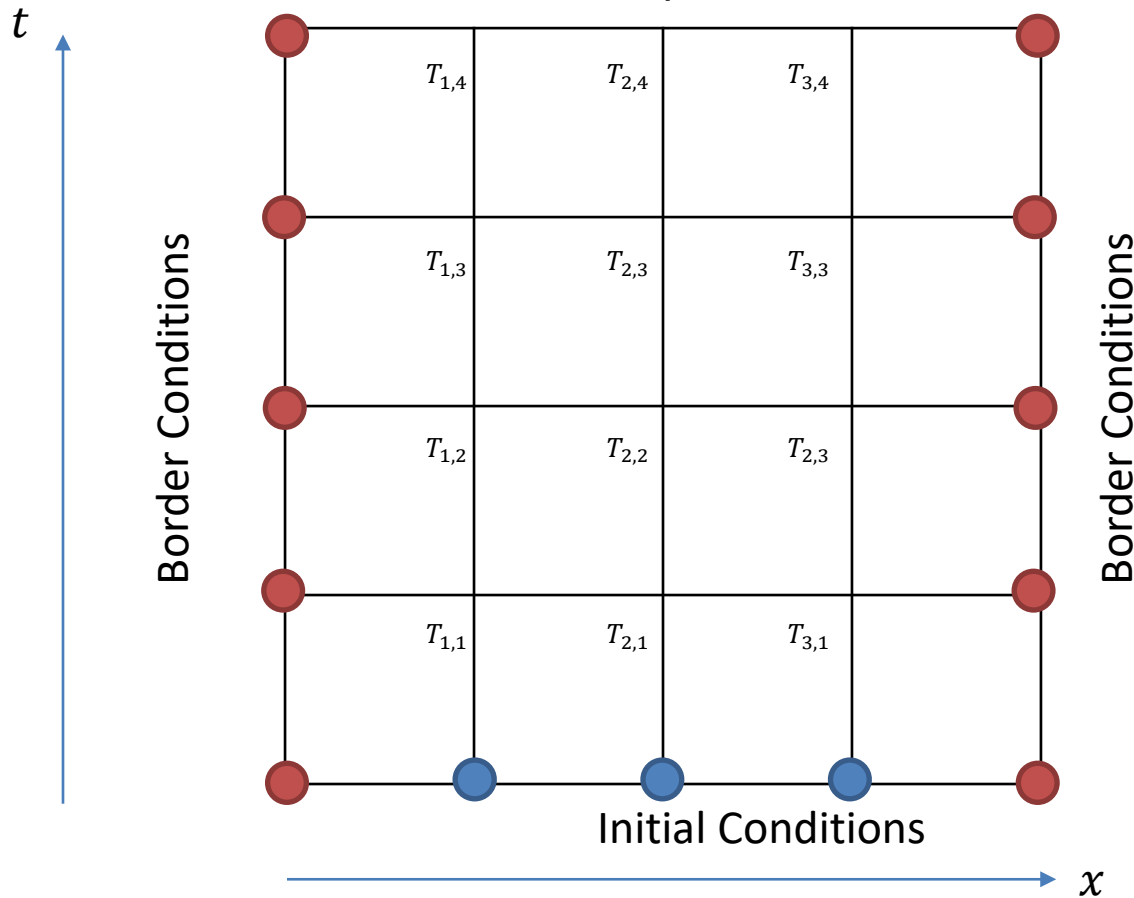
- The Explicit method is conditionally stable
- For the 1-D spatial problem, the following is the stability condition:

$$\lambda = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho}$$

- $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}$  can still yield oscillation (1D)
  - $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{4}$  ensures no oscillation (1D)
  - $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{6}$  tends to optimize truncation error
- Implicit Methods are unconditionally stable.

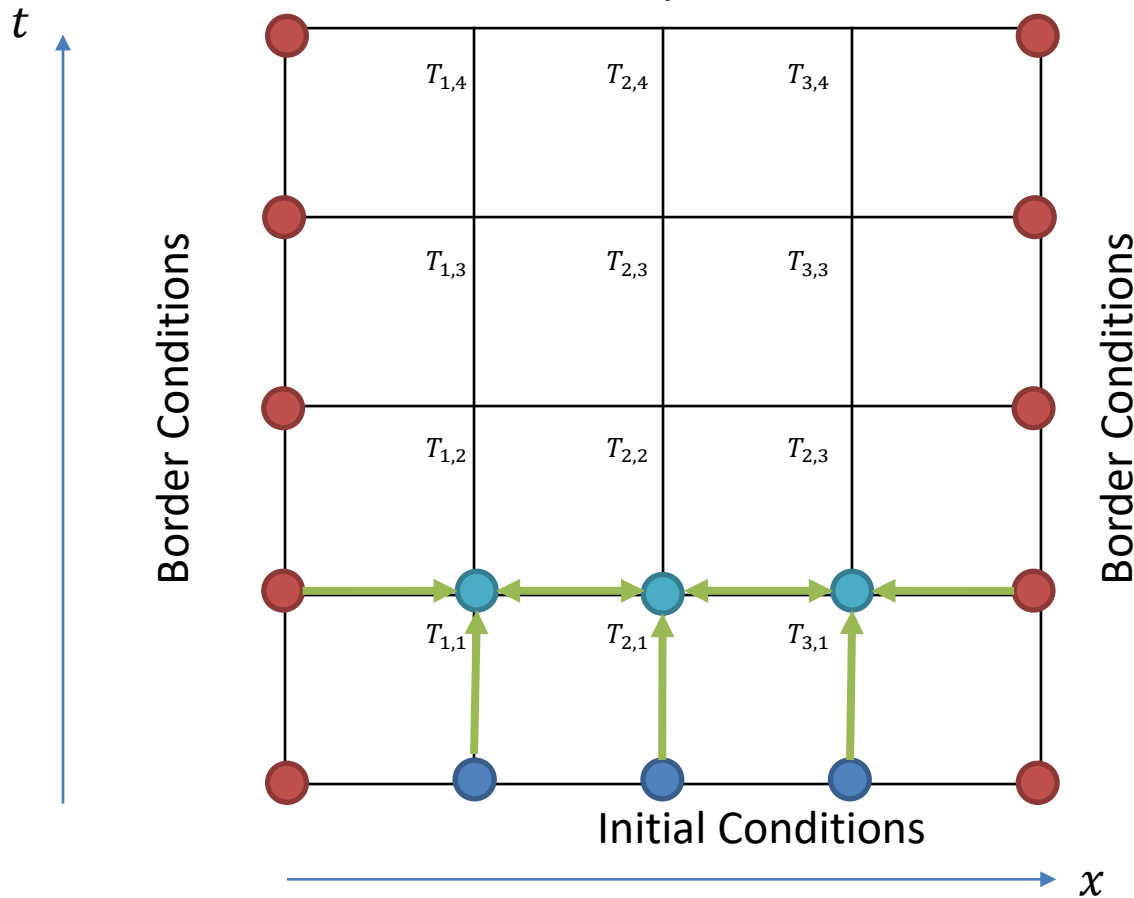
# Exercise: Implicit 1D-Heat equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$



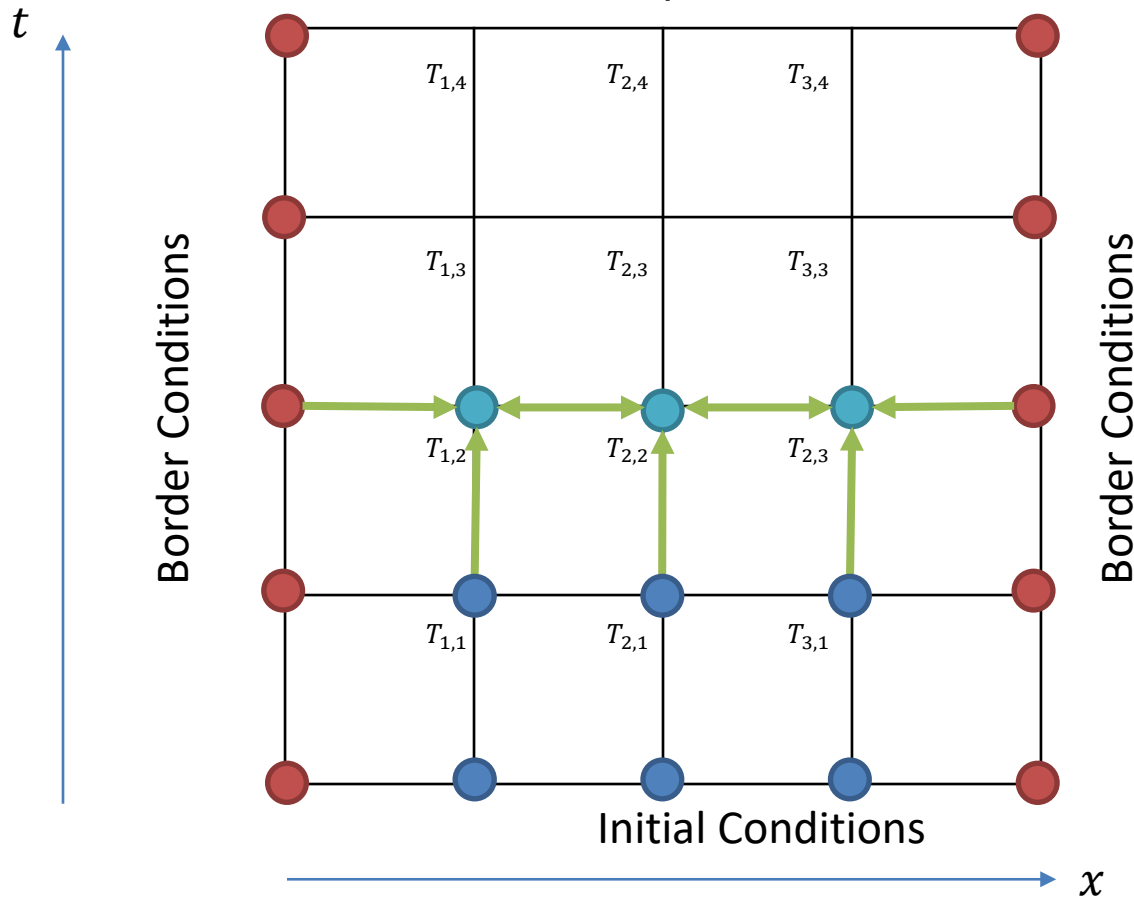
# Exercise: Implicit 1D-Heat equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$



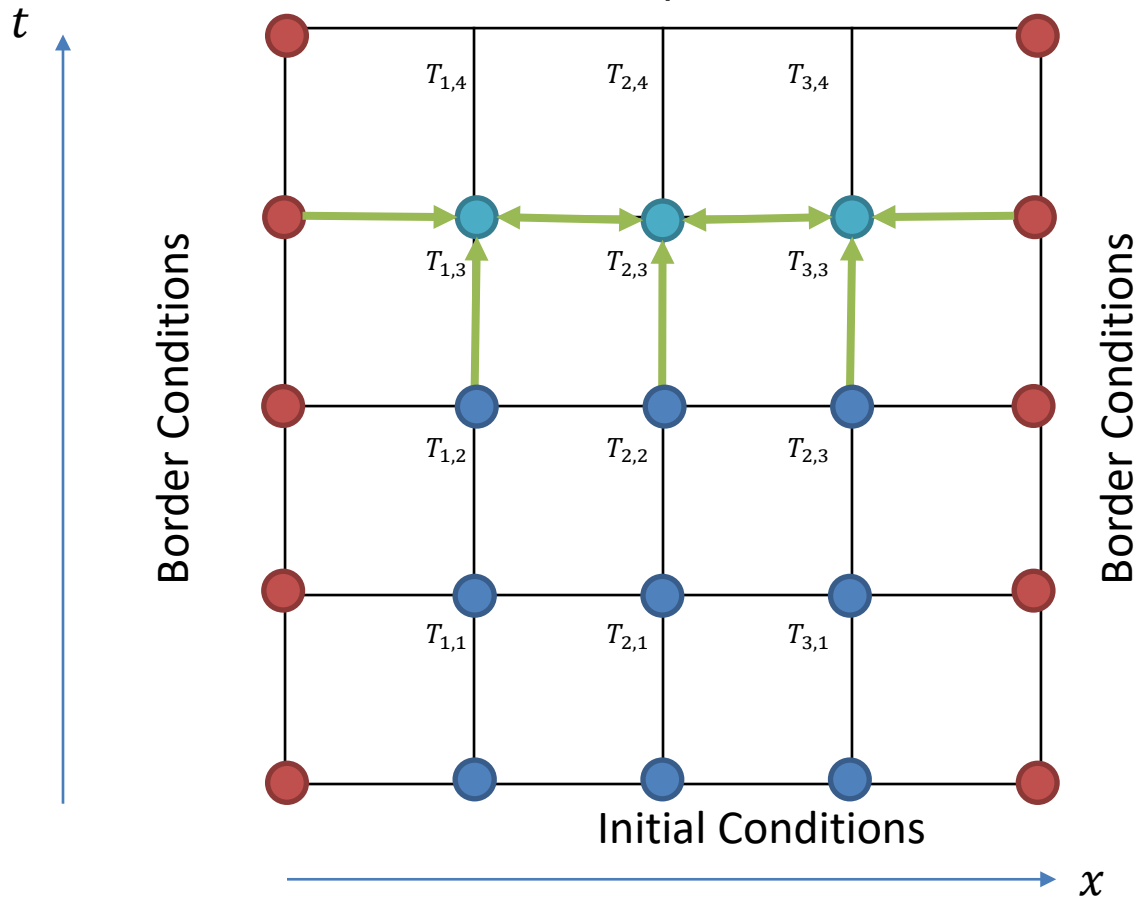
# Exercise: Implicit 1D-Heat equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$



# Exercise: Implicit 1D-Heat equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$





# Solution: Implicit 1D-Heat equation

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$

- The equation can be approximated by:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} \approx \frac{T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{T_{i-1,m+1} - 2T_{i,m+1} + T_{i+1,m+1}}{\Delta x^2}$$

$$\frac{T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m}}{\Delta t} \approx \frac{K}{C\rho} \frac{T_{i-1,m+1} - 2T_{i,m+1} + T_{i+1,m+1}}{\Delta x^2} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m} \approx \lambda (T_{i-1,m+1} - 2T_{i,m+1} + T_{i+1,m+1}) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{i,m} \approx -\lambda \cdot T_{i-1,m+1} + (1 + 2\lambda)T_{i,m+1} - \lambda \cdot T_{i+1,m+1}$$

# Solution: Implicit 1D-Heat equation

- In each point a equation can be obtained:

$$T_{i,m} \approx -\lambda \cdot T_{i-1,m+1} + (1 + 2\lambda)T_{i,m+1} - \lambda \cdot T_{i+1,m+1}$$

- It is necessary to solve a system of equation for all the positions in each interval t.

# Solving PDEs in R

- It is necessary to transform the system of PDEs in a system of ODEs
- They can be transformed by numerical differencing.

- Example:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{T_{i+1} + T_{i-1} - 2 \cdot T_i}{\Delta x^2}, \quad i = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

A system with only one state variable is transformed into a system with n state variables

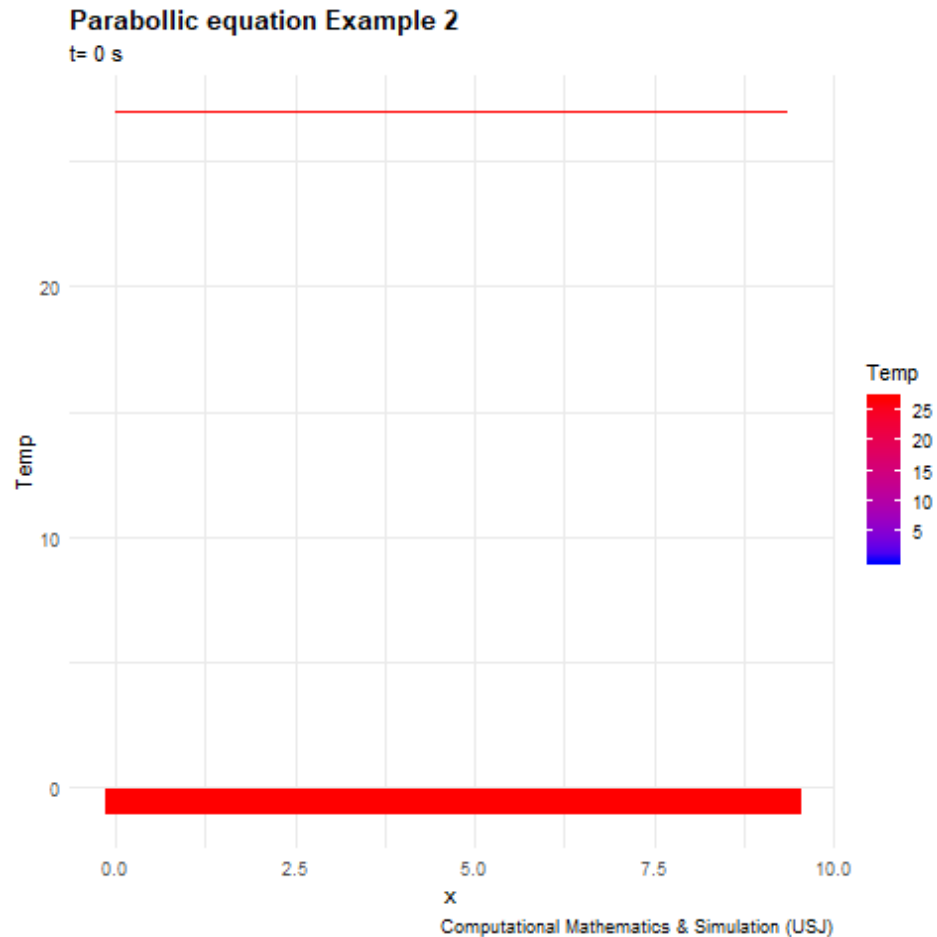
- See the functions `deSolve::ode.1d`, `deSolve::ode.2d`

# PDE with more terms

- An elliptic or a parabolic equation could have more terms
- Example

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - T \cdot e^{-t}$$

# PDE with more terms



# Operator splitting

- When a PDE or system of PDEs contains different terms expressing different physics
- It is natural to use different numerical methods for different physical processes.
- This is a way to simplify the overall solution process.
- In the context of nonlinear differential equations, operator splitting can be used to isolate nonlinear terms and simplify the solution methods.

# Operator splitting

- Example:

$$C_m \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial t} - \sigma \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} + I_{ion} = 0$$

- You can integrate the last part for each cell, and with the result we have a simple equation to calculate  $V_m$

# Operator splitting Example

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - r$$

$$r_{ss} = \frac{10}{1 + T}$$

$$\tau_r = 10$$

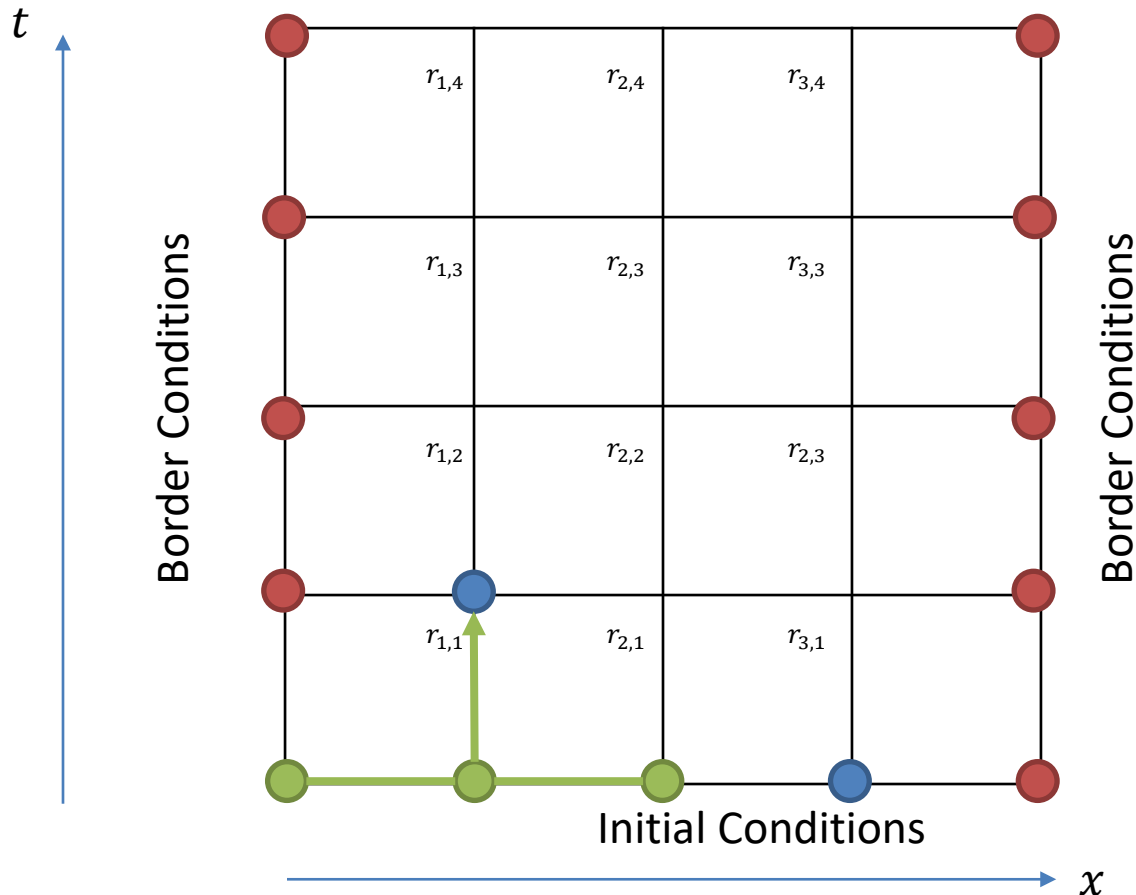
$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial t} = \frac{r_{ss} - r}{\tau_r}$$



# Operator splitting Example

First part: Explicit solver for  $r$

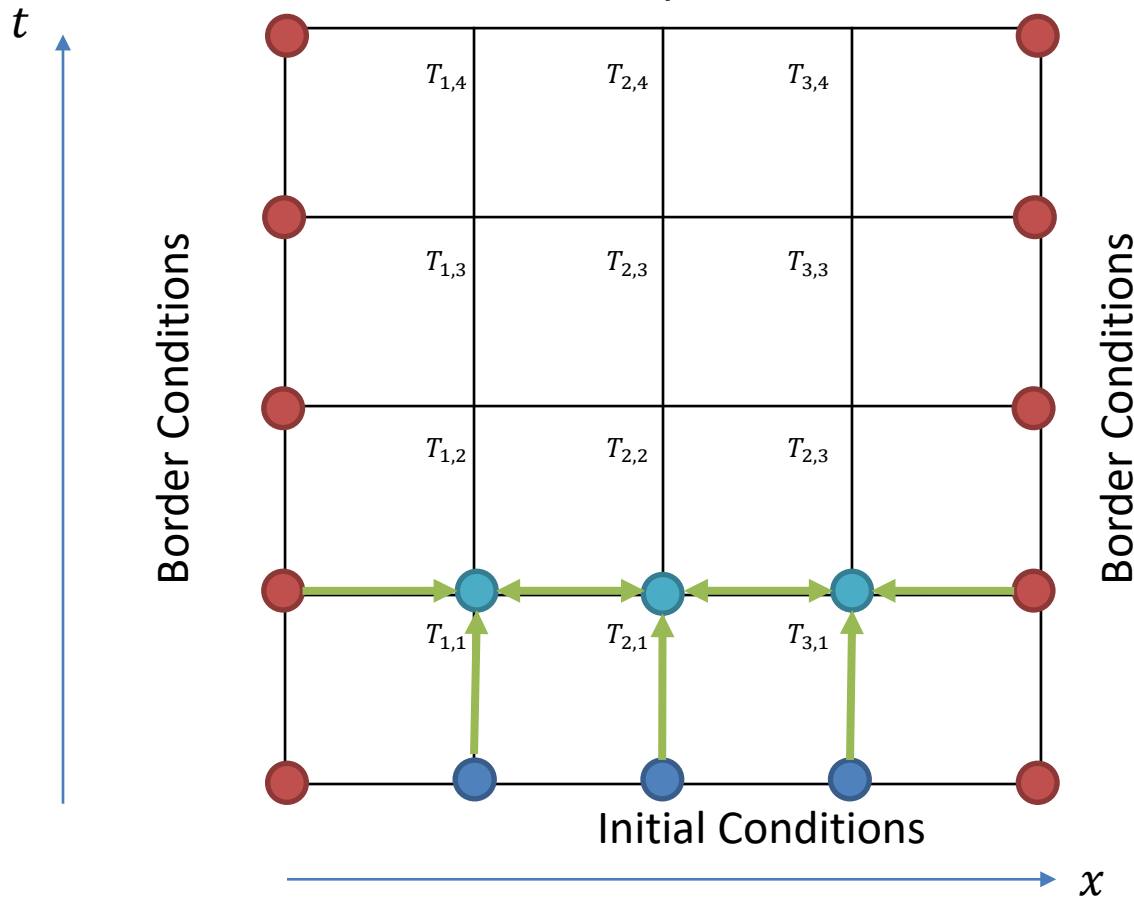
$$r_{i,m+1} \approx r_{i,m} + \Delta t \cdot \frac{\partial r}{\partial t} = r_{i,m} + \Delta t \cdot \frac{r_{ss} - r}{\tau_r}$$



# Operator splitting Example

Second part: Implicit solver for  $T$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - r$$



# Operator splitting Example

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{K}{C\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - r$$

- The equation can be approximated by:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} \approx \frac{T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{T_{i-1,m+1} - 2T_{i,m+1} + T_{i+1,m+1}}{\Delta x^2}$$

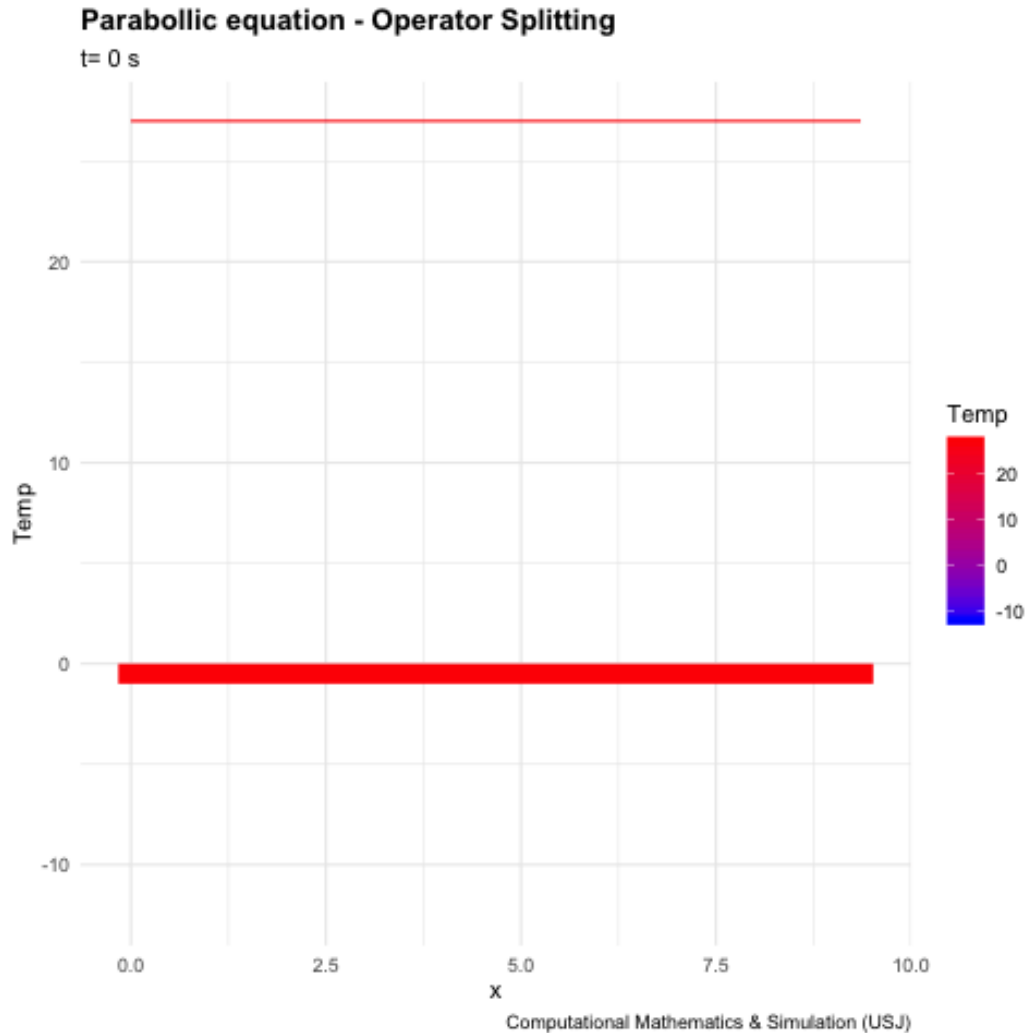
$$\lambda = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \frac{K}{C\rho}$$

$$\frac{T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m}}{\Delta t} \approx \frac{K}{C\rho} \frac{T_{i-1,m+1} - 2T_{i,m+1} + T_{i+1,m+1}}{\Delta x^2} - r_{i,m+1} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{i,m+1} - T_{i,m} \approx \lambda (T_{i-1,m+1} - 2T_{i,m+1} + T_{i+1,m+1}) - \Delta t \cdot r_{i,m+1} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{i,m} - \Delta t \cdot r_{i,m+1} \approx -\lambda \cdot T_{i-1,m+1} + (1 + 2\lambda)T_{i,m+1} - \lambda \cdot T_{i+1,m+1}$$

# Operator splitting Example



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